



2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 97

January 17, 2018 - Introduced by Representatives MURPHY, ALLEN, ANDERSON, BALLWEG, BERCEAU, BRANDTJEN, CROWLEY, E. BROOKS, EDMING, HEBL, HESSELBEIN, HINTZ, HUTTON, JACQUE, KERKMAN, KLEEFISCH, KNODL, KOOYENGA, KRUG, LOUDENBECK, MEYERS, MURSAU, NYGREN, OHNSTAD, PETRYK, RODRIGUEZ, ROHRKASTE, SARGENT, SCHRAA, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, SKOWRONSKI, SNYDER, SPIROS, SPREITZER, STEFFEN, SUBECK, SWEARINGEN, TAUCHEN, C. TAYLOR, TITTL, TRANEL, VORPAGEL, VRUWINK, ZAMARRIPA, ZEPNICK and DUCHOW, cosponsored by Senators DARLING, FITZGERALD, BEWLEY, CARPENTER, ERPENBACH, HANSEN, JOHNSON, MARKLEIN, MILLER, MOULTON, NASS, OLSEN, PETROWSKI, RINGHAND, RISSER, STROEBEL, L. TAYLOR, VINEHOUT, VUKMIR, WANGGAARD and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** congratulating the 2017 Wisconsin Badgers football team on the
2 impressive accomplishments for this season.

3 Whereas, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Badgers football team
4 completed an undefeated regular season, finishing with 12 wins and no losses, and
5 earned a bid to the Orange Bowl on December 30, 2017; and

6 Whereas, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Badgers became Orange Bowl
7 champions against the Miami Hurricanes with a score of 34 to 24, winning their
8 fourth consecutive bowl game; and

9 Whereas, the 2017 Badgers football team is the winningest in University of
10 Wisconsin-Madison history, being the first to finish the regular football season 12-0,
11 and the first ever to win 13 games in a single season; and

12 Whereas, the *Wall Street Journal's* annual ranking of top football programs
13 earlier this year singled out the University of Wisconsin-Madison as the number one
14 most admirable football program in the country for overall performance, both on the
15 field of play and as an academic institution; and

1 Whereas, the Badgers earned their second consecutive Big Ten West Division
2 title and 21 players earned All-Big Ten honors including Jonathan Taylor, Beau
3 Benzschawel, Michael Deiter, Troy Fumagalli, T.J. Edwards, D'Cota Dixon, and Nick
4 Nelson receiving First Team Honors; David Edwards, Alec James, Conor Sheehy,
5 Garret Dooley, and Rafael Gaglianone receiving Second Team Honors; Tyler Biadasz
6 and Derrick Tindal receiving Third Team Honors; and Quintez Cephus, Alex
7 Hornibrook, Ryan Connelly, Joe Ferguson, Leon Jacobs, Natrell Jamerson, and Olive
8 Sagapolu receiving Honorable Mention Honors; and

9 Whereas, Joe Ferguson won the Big Ten Sportsmanship Honor for
10 demonstrating a commitment to the community and D'Cota Dixon won the 2017
11 Orange Bowl FWAA Courage Award for overcoming adversity on and off the field;
12 and

13 Whereas, Head Coach Paul Chryst earned Big Ten Coach of the Year and
14 Defensive Coordinator Jim Leonhard was a finalist for the Broyles Award for the best
15 assistant coach in the country; and

16 Whereas, David Edwards and Beau Benzschawel were named Third Team
17 All-American by the Associated Press; and

18 Whereas, T.J. Edwards was named First Team All-American by the Associated
19 Press and was named a finalist for the Butkus Award for the best linebacker in the
20 country; and

21 Whereas, Troy Fumagalli was named the 2017 Big Ten Kwalick-Clark Tight
22 End of the Year, Second Team All-American by the Associated Press, and a finalist
23 for the John Mackey Award for best tight end in the country; and

24 Whereas, Jonathan Taylor was named the 2017 Big Ten Thompson-Randle El
25 Freshman of the Year, Second Team All-American by the Associated Press, was a

1 finalist for the Doak Walker Award for the best running back in the country, and set
2 the NCAA freshman rushing record; and

3 Whereas, the senior class finished their collegiate career with 45 wins, making
4 them the winningest class in school history; and

5 Whereas, the Badgers' 13-member senior class included Jack Cichy, Garret
6 Dooley, Joe Ferguson, Lubern Figaro, Troy Fumagalli, Rachid Ibrahim, Leon Jacobs,
7 Natrell Jamerson, Alec James, Chikwe Obasih, Austin Ramesh, Conor Sheehy and
8 Derrick Tindal; and

9 Whereas, University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank,
10 Athletic Director Barry Alvarez, and Head Coach Paul Chryst have displayed
11 extraordinary leadership in their commitment to student-athletes in both academic
12 and athletic excellence; and now, therefore, be it

13 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
14 Legislature hereby commends and congratulates the entire 2017 Wisconsin Badgers
15 football team on the impressive accomplishments for this season; and, be it further

16 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide copies of this joint
17 resolution to University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank, Athletic
18 Director Barry Alvarez, and Head Coach Paul Chryst.

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(END)